

61  
BOROUGH OF HASLINGDEN



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

AND

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

**1970**



HEALTH COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR  
COUNCILLOR D. H. VALENTINE

CHAIRMAN  
COUNCILLOR D. J. TENNANT (TO MAY 1970)  
ALDERMAN A. BUSSEY (FROM MAY 1970)

ALDERMAN J. RATCLIFFE, J.P. /

ALDERMAN MRS. G. WARBURTON, C.A. /

ALDERMAN R. WOOLLEY /

COUNCILLOR R. BARLOW \*

COUNCILLOR D. BUTTERWORTH \*

COUNCILLOR W. I. COOPER

COUNCILLOR T. FISHER \*

COUNCILLOR G. HATTON /

COUNCILLOR T. ILLINGWORTH

COUNCILLOR F. MITCHELL \*

COUNCILLOR MRS. S. D. OLDHAM /

COUNCILLOR MRS. D. RAMSDEN

COUNCILLOR E. RUSSELL \*

COUNCILLOR H. SANDERSON \*

COUNCILLOR J. STAFFORD \*

COUNCILLOR P. J. STARKEY /

\* Member of the Committee to May 1970

/ Member of the Committee from May 1970

(N.B. - The Health and Housing Committees amalgamated in May 1970)

STAFF

Town Clerk

R. B. McMILLAN LL.B.  
Solicitor

Medical Officer of Health

T. SEYMOUR JONES, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
Divisional Health Offices, Parsons Lane, Bury (Tel. 061 764 8621)

Chief Public Health Inspector & Cleansing Superintendent

J. HOLLOWS, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., M.Inst.P.C.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

S. COCKCROFT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., A.M.Inst.P.C.

Student Public Health Inspector

K. H. IVATT

Clerical Staff

MISS J. WOODS  
MRS. M. HARRISON

Health Dept. Foreman

J. E. PEAT

OFFICES

Public Health Department, Municipal Offices, Haslingden  
Telephone: Rossendale 5266

November, 1971

To the Mayor and Members of the Haslingden Borough Council

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1970, on the health and environmental conditions of the district.

The population for 1970 was estimated by the Registrar General as being 14,550. In comparison the 1961 census gave a population of 14,370 and the most recent census in April 1971 showed that the population is now 14,983. Thus despite all the private development and new housing which has been built in the past ten years the population has only increased by some 613 persons.

It is encouraging to note that the number of births increased over the previous year and as a consequence the birth rate increased to 20.8 per thousand population. This figure is well above the average for England and Wales and thus the slow increase in population can only be explained by the fact that people must be moving out of the town at a much higher rate than was thought at one time.

The fact that the number of infant deaths under 1 year dropped by 1 makes a marked difference in the mortality rate which in 1970 was 22 per thousand live births compared with 30 for the previous year. This figure, however, is still high in comparison with the rate in England and Wales. If Table I is studied it will be noted that, in every case, the cause of death was one which would be very difficult to prevent even if more was known on how to prevent these early deaths. It will be noted too that most of the infant deaths occurred in the first few days after birth.

There was an increase of 13 in the number of deaths in 1970 from 204 to 217. Heart disease was responsible for the greatest number of deaths, 77 being attributed to this cause in 1970 as against 87 in 1969 showing a decrease of 10 deaths from the disease. There were 5 deaths from lung cancer (4 males, 1 female) in 1970, as against 8 deaths (6 males and 2 females) in 1969. Full details of the principal causes of death is given in Table III on page 10 of the Report.



There was very little difference in the number of infectious diseases notified during 1970, 223 as against 222 in 1969, mainly the number was attributable to measles and whooping cough cases. Full details are set out in Table VII. For the twenty-fourth year in succession, no cases of diphtheria were reported, and there were no cases of poliomyelitis during the year.

Fortunately there were only four cases of Food Poisoning notified during the year, but the public must be ever on their guard against the possibility of Food Poisoning occurring, especially in foods which are not cooked completely and a good example of this is the contaminated chicken which is cooked by the barbecue method thus not killing off any organisms which might be deep-seated.

I must draw attention to the ever present threat of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the sense that during the year two new cases were reported in women in the 25-34 years age group. In addition a further cases was put on the Register having been transferred in from another area. I still feel very strongly that there is too much complacency about the possibility of Pulmonary Tuberculosis still being amongst the population and I shall not be satisfied until no cases are reported and there are no cases on the Register, only then can we really say that this condition has been defeated. The public at large should take any opportunity to be X-rayed whenever this is possible and to take more note of early symptoms such as persistent cough, loss of weight and lassitude etc., and to have these conditions investigated.

It may be of interest to members to note that the Council have provided 74 units of accommodation for the elderly in warden supervised groups at Greenfield Gardens, Raven Croft and Raven Park. It is estimated that this results in 1 unit of accommodation for every 25 persons in the pensionable age group. Despite this provision there is still a waiting list of elderly persons who would benefit from this type of accommodation. Unfortunately many refuse accommodation when offered very often simply because it is at the other end of the town from which they have normally lived. It could well be that a fourth group of dwellings should be sited just off Blackburn Road when a suitable site is available.

May I express my appreciation to the Members of the Health Committee, Officials of the Council and the staff of the Health Department for their co-operation throughout the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

T. SEYMOUR JONES

Medical Officer of Health

## SECTION A

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area in acres .. .. .	8,195
Population (census 1961) .. .. .	14,370
Registrar General's estimate of mid-year population for 1970	14,550
Number of dwelling houses (census 1961) .. .. .	5,477
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1970 according to Rate Books)	5,286
Rateable value .. .. .	£442,915
Sum represented by a penny rate (estimated) .. .. .	£1,750

## POPULATION:

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population for 1970 is 14,550 which is 270 more than 1969. The 1961 census population is 14,370.

## LIVE BIRTHS:

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Male .. .. .	118	8	126
Female .. .. .	131	13	144
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	249	21	270

## STILL BIRTHS:

Male .. .. .	2	-	2
Female .. .. .	1	1	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3	1	4

Total Registered Births for 1970 ... 274

Total Registered Births for 1969 ... 242



## TOTAL REGISTERED DEATHS:

								Male	Female	Total
For 1970	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	104	113	217
For 1969	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	104	204

## TOTAL DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR:

								Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
For 1970										
Male	..	..	..	..	..			4	-	4
Female	..	..	..	..	..			2	-	2
								<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
								6	-	6
For 1969										
Male	..	..	..	..	..			4	-	4
Female	..	..	..	..	..			2	1	3
								<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
								6	1	7

## DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER FOUR WEEKS OF AGE:

								Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
For 1970										
Male	..	..	..	..	..			4	-	4
Female	..	..	..	..	..			1	-	1
								<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
								5	-	5
For 1969										
Male	..	..	..	..	..			2	-	2
Female	..	..	..	..	..			2	-	2
								<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
								4	-	4

## DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE WEEK OF AGE:

								Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
For 1970										
Male	..	..	..	..	..			3	-	3
Female	..	..	..	..	..			1	-	1
								<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
								4	-	4
For 1969										
Male	..	..	..	..	..			2	-	2
Female	..	..	..	..	..			2	-	2
								<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
								4	-	4

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS: For 1970 - 29  
 (which consists of infant deaths during first week of life plus still births)

There were six deaths of infants under one year of age, four of which occurred in the first week of life.

A list of the ages and sex, and the causes of death of the infants, is appended herewith.

TABLE I

SEX	AGE	CAUSE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH
Female	1 hr. 50 mins.	Prematurity	Hospital
Female	4 months	Hypoplastic Left Heart	Hospital
Male	10 mins.	Asphyxia Neonatorum	Hospital
Male	4 days	Prematurity	Hospital
Male	18 hrs.	Prematurity	Hospital
Male	1 week	Congenital Heart Disease	Hospital

TABLE II

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			Pulmonary Tuberculosis Mortality	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	Total	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Year 1970	270	18.6*	217	14.9*	4	15.0	Nil	Nil	6	22.0	5	19.0	Nil
Year 1969	237	16.6	204	14.3	5	21.0	Nil	Nil	7	30.0	4	17.0	1
Year 1968	248	17.4	216	15.1	3	12.0	Nil	Nil	4	16.0	2	8.0	Nil
Year 1967	243	17.2	247	17.5	9	36.0	Nil	Nil	4	16.0	4	16.0	3
Year 1966	222	15.6	202	14.2	6	26.3	Nil	Nil	7	31.5	4	18.0	Nil
Year 1965	275	19.4	192	13.5	7	24.8	Nil	Nil	7	25.5	6	21.8	Nil
Average 5 Years 1965-1969	-	17.2	-	14.9	-	24.0	-	Nil	-	23.8	-	16.2	-

\* Adjusted - Live Birth-rate (Comparability factor, 1.12) = 20.8 per 1,000

Death-rate (comparability factor, 0.96) = 14.3 per 1,000

TABLE III

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc. ..	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus .. ..	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .. .. .	4	4	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine .. .. .	5	1	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus .. ..	4	1	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .. .. .	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .. .. .	-	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms .. .. .	6	5	11
Diabetes Mellitus .. .. .	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System .. .. .	2	-	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease .. .. .	-	1	1
Hypertensive Disease .. .. .	1	1	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease .. .. .	21	25	46
Other Forms of Heart Disease .. .. .	4	13	17
Cerebrovascular Disease .. .. .	19	21	40
Other Diseases of Circulatory System .. ..	4	7	11
Influenza .. .. .	-	1	1
Pneumonia .. .. .	15	10	25
Bronchitis and Emphysema .. .. .	10	2	12
Other Diseases of Respiratory System .. ..	1	-	1
Peptic Ulcer .. .. .	1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis .. .. .	-	3	3
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System .. ..	1	1	2
Abortion .. .. .	-	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System .. ..	-	3	3
Congenital Anomalies .. .. .	1	1	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc. .. ..	1	-	1
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality .. ..	2	1	3
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions .. ..	-	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents .. .. .	-	1	1
All Other Accidents .. .. .	1	3	4
Total All Causes	104	113	217

## SECTION B

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Under the National Health Service Act the County Council is responsible for the health services under that Act.

The following matters are the responsibility of the Borough Council:-

Inspection of houses with regard to fitness for human habitation; provision of suitable water supplies; control of cleansing and disposal of refuse; inspection of all food and food-preparing premises; sampling of foodstuffs for bacteriological examination; the control of infectious disease; sanitary accommodation to houses, factories, shops and other premises; nuisances and defects; rodent control; offensive trades; smoke abatement; and many other matters concerned with environmental health.

The examination of pathological specimens and milk and water samples, is undertaken without charge, by the Public Health Laboratory at Preston.

Hospital facilities are under the Regional Board and Managements Committees and patients are admitted without regard to local boundaries.

Ambulance, District Nursing, Midwifery and Maternity and Child Welfare Services are provided by the County Council and administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme.



SECTION C  
PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The National Health Service Act requires that copies of all notifications of infectious diseases must be forwarded without delay to the County Medical Officer. In practice these notifications are sent to the Divisional Medical Officer, so that he may correlate action within the health division and to enable the Divisional Committee to gain a regular knowledge of the incidence of infectious disease throughout their area.

TABLE IV  
DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, Primary (during 1970 - By year of birth)

1970	1969	1968	1967	1963-1966	Others Under 16	Total
-	128	7	-	3	-	138
Reinforcement Injections during 1970 i.e. Subsequent to complete course (by year of birth)						
-	-	-	-	111	160	271

TABLE V  
CHILDREN PROTECTED AGAINST OTHER DISEASES

Disease	Primary - By year of birth						Total
	1970	1969	1968	1967	1963-1966	Others under 16	
Whooping Cough	-	119	5	-	-	-	124
Tetanus	-	128	7	-	5	-	140
Poliomyelitis	-	139	36	6	6	-	187
Measles	-	1	3	4	3	-	11
Rubella	-	-	-	-	-	52	52
Reinforcement - By year of birth							
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Tetanus	-	-	-	1	114	177	292
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	205	17	222
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE VI  
VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX PERFORMED DURING THE YEAR 1970

Primary Vaccination - Age in years				Revaccination - Age in years			
Under 2	2-5	5-15 inclu.	Total Under 16	Under 2	2-5	5-15 inclu.	Total Under 16
9	27	4	40	-	1	3	4



TABLE VII

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)  
RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 1970

"Notifiable" Diseases	Total Cases at all ages	Total Cases Notified Years								Total Deaths
		Un- der 1	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 & over	age un- known	
Scarlet Fever .. ..	11	-	-	3	4	1	2	1	-	-
Whooping Cough .. ..	69	5	19	11	24	6	-	-	4	-
Measles .. ..	129	4	34	32	51	3	1	-	4	-
Infective Jaundice .. ..	10	-	-	-	5	2	-	1	2	-
Food Poisoning .. ..	4	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-
Totals	223	10	53	46	85	12	4	3	10	-

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION:

During the year, 154 bacteriological examinations were made for the presence of Salmonella/Dysentery organisms. Thirty-five specimens were found to be positive whilst the other 119 were negative.

#### TUBERCULOSIS:

Each case of tuberculosis is visited by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor of the Lancashire County Council as soon as possible after receipt of notification. Where desirable, Sanatorium or Hospital treatment is arranged after consultation between the Chest Physician and the Medical Practitioner concerned.

At the beginning of the year, there were 22 recorded cases of tuberculosis 3 cases were added and no cases taken off, leaving a total of 25 cases at the end of the year.

The examination of sputum for the presence of tubercle bacilli is carried out at the Blackburn Royal Infirmary.

In no instances has there been any wilful neglect or refusal to notify. The notification of tuberculosis in this district being satisfactory.

There does not appear to be any excessive incidence of, or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the area.

It has not been necessary to take action during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under the Public Health Acts relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

#### DISINFECTION:

Generally, room fumigation for diseases other than smallpox is no longer recommended. Experience has shown that thorough cleansing with soap, water and disinfectant together with efficient ventilation of the rooms is adequate.

Infection, in the cases of diseases like scarlet fever and diphtheria is nearly always due to personal contact or to the infection of food and drink.

Table VIII gives the age of the cases of tuberculosis notified and the deaths from the disease during 1970.

TABLE VIII  
TUBERCULOSIS  
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1970

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Years								
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-34	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
35-44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-

N.B. Primary notifications only included in the above table



R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR





November, 1971

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

I have the honour to present for your consideration my third Annual Report on the environmental conditions in the district and the progress recorded in 1970.

Clearance of unfit houses and the improvement of houses wherever practicable is the most pressing problem at the moment. Having regard to current enhanced grant-aid for both the private sector and Council owned houses, not forgetting Slum Clearance, it is vital that full advantage be taken to press on with this work.

To this end consideration needs to be given to the introduction of General Improvement Areas (G.I.A's) in the private sector. However, such work is lengthy and time consuming having regard to preparatory stages and following up after agreement and Declaration of a particular area.

Now that assurances have been given regarding the availability of solid smokeless fuels together with the ample supply of alternative fuels consideration may be given to the introduction of a Smoke Control Programme. Having regard to the progress made in this field in the "Black Areas" there is now very little difference between such areas and our own district which has been excluded from that category. Nevertheless on both health and environmental grounds there is every justification to commence this work.

Also during the year there has been an increased demand to deal with requests for advice or complaints regarding numerous other matters such as food, water and milk supplies, rodent and pest control, the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 and other services details of which are contained in the body of the report.

It should be noted that whilst there is a real and justifiable need for this and other equally important work, sufficient resources are necessary if it is to be carried out satisfactorily.

At the beginning of the year the Health Department moved from the offices in John Street, where the department had been housed for several years, into the new annexe to the Municipal Offices on Bury Road. This move has proved popular with the public and Members alike who now seek the aid of the department whilst attending the Municipal Offices often on other business. It has undoubtedly resulted in an increased demand for the department's services by the public who are increasingly becoming aware of the need for a better environment in which to live and work.

The Raven Park Scheme which redeveloped the "Prefab" site at Helmsore was completed during the year. This now provides a total of 40 bungalows which include 27 sheltered accommodation bungalows and a warden's bungalow. Together with the adjacent shopping development and the landscaping this is another scheme of which the town can be justly proud.

The important work of Cleansing involving the collection and disposal of household and other refuse still takes up an increasing amount of time. The growing amount of refuse makes it more difficult each year to maintain the high standards kept over the years by the men responsible for this work. To this end it is imperative that a "Municipal Bin Scheme" be introduced as quickly as possible so that careful survey and method study work can help maintain and perhaps increase the efficiency of the collection of refuse. If this could be done no doubt areas of the town would be ideal for the introduction of disposable sacks for storage.

My appreciation and thanks are due to all Members and Officials of the Council for their interest, encouragement and assistance and particularly to the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Members of the Health Committee. My grateful thanks are also due to an efficient and loyal staff for their ungrudging service throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. HOLLOWS

Chief Public Health Inspector

## SECTION D

## ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES

## WATER:

The water supply of Haslingden is obtained mainly from the Bolton Corporation Waterworks Undertaking, with a small number of houses in the Rising Bridge/Stonefold area being supplied by the Calder Water Board, and the remainder some 238 houses and farms, by springs and wells. The percentage of occupied houses supplied from private sources such as springs and wells, is approximately 4.5. In all cases the water supply by the two Undertakings is direct to taps in the consumers houses, neither of the Undertakings deliver water by stand pipes. The average natural fluoride content of the Bolton Waterworks supply varies between 0.15 and 0.20 p.p.m. That of the Calder Water Board is 0.10 p.p.m.

Approximately eighty per cent of the houses in the Borough are now fitted with baths. Extensions of 668 yards to the existing mains of the Bolton Corporation Waterworks Undertaking, were laid during the year. In addition 105 yards of mains to existing houses were renewed. The water supplied in this area is treated with lime for plumbo-solvency. The Water Undertakings take large numbers of samples of treated and untreated water to ensure satisfactory quality. A new filtration plant with a nominal output of 3.5 million gallons a day was completed and put into commission at Haslingden Grane in 1965.

The Health Department took 68 samples of water for bacteriological examination. Sixteen samples were taken direct from the mains and all of these were satisfactory. Of 52 samples taken from other sources 22 were satisfactory. Two chemical samples were taken from private supplies and one was found to be unsatisfactory.

The Bolton Corporation Waterworks Undertaking reports that 671 samples of raw water were subjected to bacteriological examination and partial chemical analysis and 24 to full chemical analysis in the statutory area of supply. In addition, 1,573 samples of filtered and treated water received bacteriological examination and partial chemical analysis and 32 full chemical analysis. Results showed that the filtered and treated water was of a satisfactory quality.

The Calder Water Board report both chemical and bacteriological analysis made during 1970 proved satisfactory.

Under the Housing Act 1964, local authorities can give a grant to help house owners with an unsatisfactory joint service water supply to convert to a separate service. This scheme has now been in progress for five years and has been well received and taken up by a considerable number of house owners.

## DRAINS AND SEWERS:

The sewage disposal works are under the control of a Joint Board, and deal with the sewage of the three Rossendale Valley Towns - Bacup, Haslingden and Rawtenstall. The plant is situated at the lowest point in the area and the method of treatment is automatic screening plant, detritis and precipitation tanks with outfall to the River Irwell. During 1969 extensive modernisation works were completed which included the installation of a sludge heat treatment plant.

Additional lengths of sewer were provided for private estates now in course of erection - approximately 253 yards of 9" sewer were laid.



## SANITARY ACCOMMODATION:

The figures below show the closet accommodation of the Borough at the end of the year.

1.	Number of pail closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	114
2.	Number of waste water closets	..	..	..	..	..		1095
3.	Number of fresh water closets	..	..	..	..	..		5018
4.	Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens)				..	..		6
5.	Number of movable dustbins	..	..	..	..	..		5891

There are still one hundred and fourteen pail closets in existence, mostly situated on the outskirts of the town, mainly remote from sewerage and mains water facilities. Wherever possible it is hoped such premises will remove these insanitary closets by taking advantage of improvement grants.

During 1970, conversions took place as follows:-

Trough closets to fresh water closets	..	..	..	..	Nil
Waste water closets to fresh water closets	..	..	..		52
Pail closets to fresh water closets	..	..	..	..	1

## CLOSET CONVERSION SCHEME:

On the 1st April, 1964 the Council introduced a scheme whereby, in approved cases, a grant of £10 was paid towards the conversion of a waste water closet to a fresh water closet. This has recently been reviewed and the amount of grant raised to £20. At the present time, however, most of the conversions are in connection with improvement grants.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING:

The vehicles used for public cleansing are as follows:- Two vehicles used entirely on collection of household refuse. One vehicle is used for the collection of nightsoil (in a special tank fitted to the wagon for that purpose) and for the collection of trade refuse, salvage, special collections of bulky refuse and some household refuse as required.

Household refuse is collected weekly and nightsoil is also collected weekly. All household refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the South Shore Tip. Nightsoil is discharged to the sewers by means of a special nightsoil chute.

The weekly collection of household refuse was commenced in April 1959, and this service has been maintained since that date, despite very real difficulty in obtaining suitable labour. This problem is still with us.

An increasing amount of work is arising under the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act 1967. Also despite arrangements for the proper disposal of scrap vehicles the work of dealing with vehicles abandoned on private land is growing. A separate service for the collection of bulky items of household refuse is provided in an attempt to reduce the practice of dumping such refuse on spare land. The rapidly increasing number of collections being made by this service indicates its success. However, this service is now taxed to the limit and further increase in such work will inevitably mean providing another vehicle and increasing the number of workmen if we are to cope with the growing amount of household and trade refuse due mainly to expanding development.

Despite the introduction of two vehicles of increased capacity for the collection of household refuse the volume of refuse handled is constantly rising, mainly due to expanding development. Consequently the need to carry out a full and detailed survey as to how the collection service can best be re-organised to maintain the existing service is of some urgency. As soon as possible a "Municipal Storage Receptacle Scheme" should be introduced. This aspect of Method Study would enable a suitable area to be selected for the introduction of a pilot scheme for use of disposable sacks as opposed to bins. Though the question of cost would have to be considered closely there is no doubt, as proved by numerous local authorities, that such schemes have led to increased efficiency, apart from several other health and environmental advantages.

Below are details of materials collected during 1970 and 1969:

	Cubic Yards			Loads	
	1970	1969		1970	1969
Household Refuse	48,400	38,250	Special Collections	649	597
Trade Refuse	5,200	3,031	Night Soil	118	118

SALVAGE: Salvage collected and sold as follows:-

					Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.
Paper, cardboard, etc.	..	..	..	..	24	-	-
Scrap tins, metal, rags, etc. from tip	..	..			4	6	3
					<hr/> 28	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 3

Gross Value - £303 (including sale of Scrap Wagon 210 JTY)

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Details of the inspection work carried out during 1970 are shown in Table IX.

TABLE IX

## INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Housing - No. of houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects - 629

No. of inspections made for the purposes 1341

## Meat and Food Inspection:-

Food Inspection .. .. .	470
Butchers' Shops .. .. .	18
Farms .. .. .	40
Milk Supplies .. .. .	327
Ice-cream Premises .. .. .	4
Fried Fish Shops .. .. .	3
Bakehouses .. .. .	21
Restaurant Kitchens, Cafes etc. .. .. .	18
Other Food Shops .. .. .	56
Infectious Disease and Disinfection .. .. .	173
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 .. .. .	85
Schools .. .. .	43
Water Samples and Supplies .. .. .	263
Caravan Sites .. .. .	50
Rodent Control .. .. .	245
Factories and Workshops .. .. .	21
Smoke Abatement .. .. .	152
Public Conveniences .. .. .	173
Drains and Water Closets .. .. .	572
Public Cleansing .. .. .	668
Hen Pens and Piggeries .. .. .	7
Miscellaneous Nuisances .. .. .	742
Noise Abatement .. .. .	69
Miscellaneous .. .. .	770
Civic Amenities Act .. .. .	272



In Table X are particulars of:-

- (a) Notices served and complied with
- (b) Defects and nuisances found and remedied

TABLE X

(a) NOTICES						Served		Complied with	
Formal Notices .. .. .						19		16	
Informal Notices .. .. .						160		79	
(b) NUISANCES AND DEFECTS						Discovered		Abated	
DWELLING HOUSES:						1970	1969	1970	1969
Dampness .. .. .						102	56	89	49
Defective dustbins and pails .. .. .						399	256	399	256
Defective fresh and waste water closets and drains .. .. .						170	70	150	69
Chimneys, roofs and other housing repairs .. .. .						133	72	118	66

## CLEAN AIR:

There were three notifications to install new boiler plants over 55,000 B.T.U'S./hr. received during 1970. Also in connection with the above the height of one new chimney was approved. Generally there is a low incidence of industrial smoke in the Borough but from time to time there have been emissions of smoke from the chimneys of a small number of industrial premises whose plant or technique is not up to the required standard.

The major cause of atmospheric pollution in the district, however, arises from domestic premises, though there is a steady trend towards smokeless heating by the installation of central heating and the like. Having regard to the improvement in fuel supplies, although not a "Black Area" consideration may now be given to the introduction of a Smoke Control Programme provided sufficient resources of staff are available.

Measurement of the degree of aerial pollution is carried out by a Smoke/Sulphur Dioxide recording machine sited at the Health Department.

## SWIMMING BATHS:

The Corporation Swimming Baths provide one plunge bath and eight slipper baths with facilities for medicinal baths.

The water in the plunge bath is treated by filtration, chlorination and aeration, and is chemically treated by sulphate of alumina and soda. The water is tested daily for pH value, for residual chlorine and for temperature. The pool capacity is approximately 76,000 gallons and there is complete turnover of the water each  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours. Three bacteriological samples were taken of the water in the plunge bath - two were completely satisfactory and one was below standard.

## SCHOOLS:

All eleven schools have a towns water supply. All have fresh water closets and all have dustbins for refuse collection. On the instructions of the Council a survey of the schools in the district was carried out during the year. A report was subsequently presented and on the instructions of the Council copies were sent to the Education Authorities concerned. The report outlined matters which it was felt required attention.

## MORTUARY:

During 1970 the Council considered the joint use with Rawtenstall and Bacup of the mortuary owned by and situated in Rawtenstall but after careful deliberation decided to continue using the mortuary in Haslingden. As a result considerable renovation works were carried out.

## ERADICATION OF INSECT PESTS:

There were no cases of bed bugs dealt with during the year. Eighty premises were treated for other insect pests, as against twenty-seven in 1969.

# RODENT CONTROL:

Two hundred and sixty-eight premises were dealt with for rodent infestation during the year. In 147 cases, rats caused the infestation, the other 131 being mice. None of the infestations were major in character, but it must be noted that prompt attention to the smaller infestations prevents the occurrence of the major ones.

A large number of visits were made to premises with regard to infestations in addition to many routine inspections for the presence of rodents.

# COMMON LODGING HOUSES:

There are no registered Common Lodging Houses within the Borough, the last on the register being closed in 1959.

# RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT 1951:

There are no premises in the town where rag flock is manufactured and so far as is known, none is being sold or used.

# CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960:

There are three site licences issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 in operation at the end of the year. 54 caravans can be accommodated on the three sites.

# OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale Shops Warehouses	Catering Estab. open to public Canteens	Fuel storage Depots
No. of registered premises at end of year	21	52	3	6	-
No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year	5	10	1	1	-
No. of exemptions current at end of year					
Space (S.5(2))	-	-	-	-	-
Temperature (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.9)					
Washing Facilities (S.10)					

No. of visits of all kinds during the year to registered premises - 85  
Prosecutions - Nil

SECTION E  
H O U S I N G

## NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:

					Houses	Flats
(a)	By the local authority	..	..	..	40	-
(b)	By other local authority	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
(c)	By other bodies or persons	..	..	..	84	Nil
No. of Council owned dwellings existing at the end of the year						1414

## INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES:

Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)						629
Number of inspections made for the above purposes .. .. .						1341
Number of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, but capable of being rendered fit .. .. .						89
Total number of dwellings existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which:-						
(a)	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have been made (at any time)	..	..	..	..	65
(b)	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Order have not yet been made	..	..	..	..	342
Number of dwelling houses demolished during year:-						
(a)	Unfit houses	..	..	..	..	54
(b)	Other houses	..	..	..	..	2
Number of persons displaced from Clearance Areas .. .. .						98



## HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS:

	Houses	Persons Displaced
Houses demolished or closed during year: Housing Act 1957		
Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure Section 17(1) Housing Act 1957 .. ..	9	16
Local authority owned houses demolished (M.O.H. Certificate) .. .. .	-	-
Unfit houses closed: Under Sections 16(4), 17(1), 35(1) Housing Act 1957	3	1

## REPAIRS DURING YEAR:

	No. of Houses
Number of houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts .. .. .	89
Houses in which defects were remedied under the Public Health Acts after service of formal notice:	
(a) By owners .. .. .	3
(b) By local authority in default of owner .. .. .	Nil
Houses in which defects were remedied under the Housing Act 1957 (Sections 9 and 16) after service of formal notice:	
(a) By owners .. .. .	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owner .. .. .	Nil

## UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (HOUSING ACT 1957):

Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation	Nil
Number of separate dwellings contained in above .. .. .	Nil
Number of houses licensed for temporary accommodation .. .. .	Nil

TABLE XI

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected in schemes of	
	Owner Occupied	Others
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority .. .. .	32	-
(b) Approved by Local Authority ..	29	-
(c) Submitted by Local Authority to Ministry .. .. .	-	-
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	-	-
(e) Work completed .. .. .	25	-
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above .. ..	-	-
STANDARD GRANTS		No. of dwellings or other buildings
(a) Applications submitted to Local Authority for improvement to full standard .. .. .		29
(b) Applications approved by Local Authority for improvement to reduced standard .. ..		-
(c) Total applications approved by Local Authority		29
(d) Work Completed .. .. .		28

HOUSING ACT 1969:

One Qualification Certificate was issued during the year. Twelve applications were received.



## HOUSING CONDITIONS - GENERAL:

During the year seven Clearance Areas were Represented. These resulted in the following - Springside C.P.O.; Hargreaves Street C.O.; Rakefoot C.P.O.; Spring Vale C.O.; Station Hill, Helmsore C.P.O. and Hudrake Clearance Areas Nos. 1 and 2 (the latter being acquired by agreement).

Fifty-six houses were demolished during the year, a considerable number of which were in the Queen Street C.P.O./Hudrake area. At the end of the year 65 Houses, in Clearance Areas which had been confirmed, were awaiting demolition.

Thirty-four families and 115 persons were re-housed during the year. The average number of persons per house (2.72) does not indicate any extent of overcrowding in the district.

Whilst an increasing number of houses are being erected by private developers in different parts of the district this bright prospect is somewhat marred by the number of unfit and sub-standard houses in other parts which are in need of clearance as soon as possible. Also many houses in the district still lack basic amenities such as a fresh water closet, hot water and bath. With the grants now available under the Housing Act 1969, which have been recently increased in this area under the Housing Act 1971, the position should improve at an increased rate and this appears to be borne out by the current rate of enquiries and applications.

Over the last few months there has been a very sharp rise in the number of enquiries and, to some extent, the applications for grants have increased. This is particular evident with regard to Improvement Grants and having regard to the "life" conditions of the property means very careful and often lengthy survey work has to be carried out in connection with the individual applications. In many instances this involves checking not just the one property but a whole block of properties before a recommendation can be made. Unfortunately this results in some instances of delay which is unavoidable.

The Standard Grants are now dealt with completely from a technical aspect within the Health Department. Here again as with the Improvement Grants the problem of determining the "life" conditions often involves survey work on a block of property before an individual application can be determined. Again because of this, delay can result in certain cases.

It can be claimed that areas of property within the town need to be considered from the point of view of reducing the normal 15 years life to a period of 10 years as allowable in certain circumstances by the Ministry.

## CONSTRUCTION OF NEW COUNCIL HOUSES:

The Raven Park Development, which took place on the old "Prefab" site at Helmsore, was completed during the year. This scheme now provides 40 bungalows including 27 sheltered accommodation bungalows and a warden's bungalow. This again illustrates another area where redevelopment has transformed, what was an ugly scar, to a very desirable area. Thus, along with the shop development, this area has once again been put to good and much needed use.

## SECTION F

MILK: Particulars of bacteriological and biological examinations are given in Table XII.

TABLE XII

Total number of samples submitted 246<sup>ø</sup>

Samples for Biological Examination				
		Results		
		Positive	Negative	No Result
(a)	Tuberculosis .. .. .	-	245	-
(b)	Brucellosis - Ring Test .. ..	14	223	1
(c)	Brucellosis - Culture Test ..	7	11	3
(d)	Brucellosis - Biological Test ..	1	2	-

Samples for Statutory Tests					
		Results			
		No. of Samples	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Void Samples
Raw Milk:					
(a)	Methylene Blue Test	31	29	-	2
Heat Treated Milk:					
(b)	Methylene Blue Test )	4	4	-	-
(c)	Phosphotase Test )		4	-	-
(d)	Turbidity Test	3	3	-	-
(e)	Colony Count Test	-	-	-	-

<sup>ø</sup> includes 1 untreated milk sample submitted specifically for examination in connection with Salmonella paratyphi B case

BRUCELOSIS: Where positive samples are reported a follow-up inspection is made at farms. Milk from affected cows is isolated and sent for pasteurisation or the infected animal removed from the herd. It is hoped the area will soon be included in the Brucellosis Eradication Scheme currently under way by the Ministry of Agriculture.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS: An increasing number of inspections of imported containerised meat brought into the district from abroad took place in 1970. Inspections are made at retailers shops and other premises where foodstuffs are stored, exposed for sale or in course of preparation for sale.

FOOD CONDEMNED: During 1970 136 lbs. of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption and destroyed.

FOOD POISONING: Four cases were reported in 1970.

## FOOD PREMISES - FOOD HYGIENE:

A limited number of inspections were made at food shops, school kitchens and other food preparing places under the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations. In five instances, official notification was given to the owner or occupier to comply with the Regulations.

## FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960:

The following premises have been recorded under the Regulations:-

Category	No. premises	Comply with Reg. 16	No. requiring Reg. 19	Comply with Reg. 19
Bakehouses ..	15	15	15	15
Butchers .. ..	19	19	19	19
Greengrocers ..	11	9	11	11
Fried Fish Shops	10	10	10	10
Grocers .. ..	60	53	60	60
Fishmongers ..	4	4	4	4
Licensed premises, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars, and similar catering establishments	62	58	58	58

## LIQUID EGG PASTEURISATION REGULATIONS 1963:

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

## POULTRY INSPECTION:

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

## ADULTERATION OF FOOD: CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION:

The administration of Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and regulations governing the adulteration of food, are under the control of the Lancashire County Council and their officers take samples in the district. The bacteriological examination of foodstuffs is dealt with by the Borough Council and samples are submitted for such examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Preston.



APPENDIX I

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1970 FOR THE  
BOROUGH OF HASLINGDEN  
IN THE COUNTY OF LANCASHIRE

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of the Factories Act 1961





## 1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	43	6	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	83	9	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. .. .	-	-	-	-
TOTALS .. .. .	126	15	-	-

2 - CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND (if defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more 'cases')

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Redmediated	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .. ..	5	5	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	2	2	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective .. ..	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL .. ..	10	10	-	-	-

PART XIII OF THE ACT - Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

	SECTION 133			SECTION 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by section 133(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Packing of						
Surgical Dress.	1	-	-	-	-	-
Footwear	2	-	-	-	-	-
Wearing apparel	1	-	-	-	-	-
Woodcraft	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	5	-	-	-	-	-



